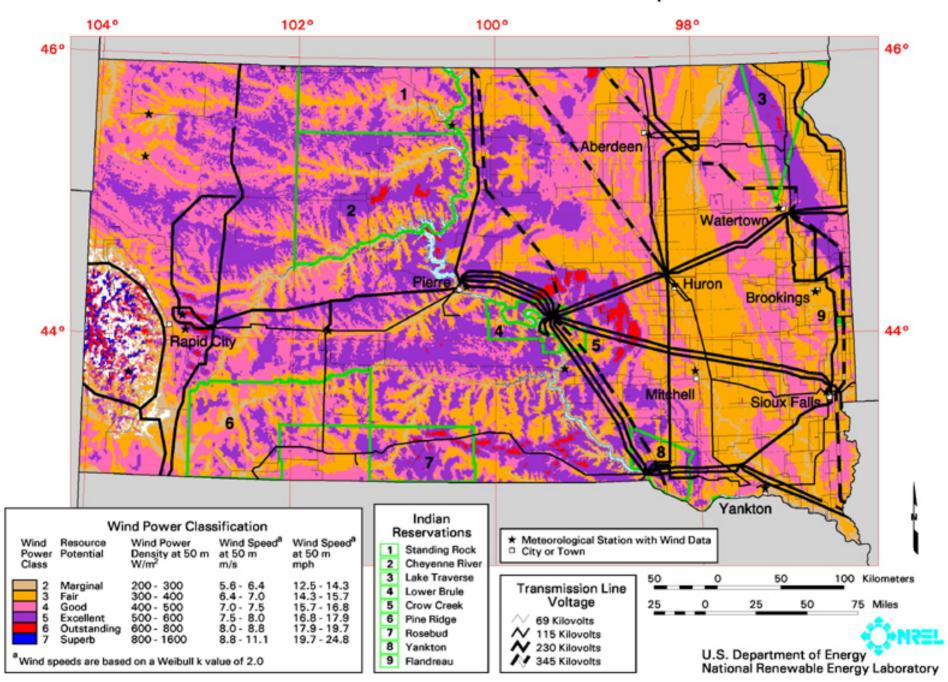


**SDPUC Utility Analyst** 

#### South Dakota - Wind Resource Map



## Challenges & Obstacles to Wind Power

- Finding a Buyer
- Transmission Constraints
- Economics of Wind Generation
- National Level
- Cost Examples

# Who are the Potential Buyers?

- Consumers of South Dakota
  - Green Energy Programs
  - Insert into the system

Export it to Other States

# Who are the Potential Buyers?

#### Consumers of South Dakota

- Challenges and Obstacles
  - Low growth in SD's electricity needs
  - SD's existing electricity needs are met predominately with low cost Hydro & Coal generation with some smaller amounts of Natural Gas, Nuclear and Other mixed in
  - Inserting Wind Energy into our current mix can mean an increase in current electric rates (Economics)

# Who are the Potential Buyers?

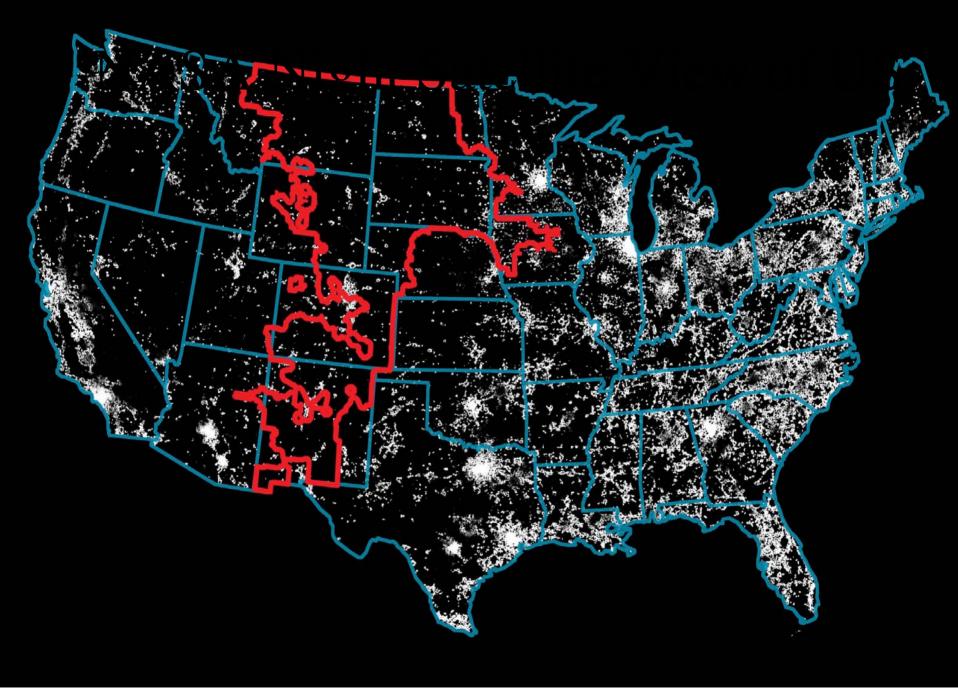
### Consumers of South Dakota

- Challenges and Obstacles
  - Low Growth in SD's Electricity Needs
  - Existing Electricity Needs are met with low cost Hydro & Coal generation
  - · Can mean an increase in current electric rates (Economics)

### Export to Other States

Problem – Transmission constraints





### **Transmission Costs**

■ 345 kV ~ \$350,000-\$500,000/mile

Substations ~ \$3-5 Million Each

500 miles of line ~ \$200-\$250 million



## **Economics of Wind Energy**

### Generation costs for Wind Energy

- 4 to 7 cents per Kwh (without PTC)
- 2.2 to 5.2 cents per Kwh (with PTC of 1.8 cents)
- PTC expired 12/31/03

## **Economics of Coal & Hydro**

- 1.5 cents per Kwh for hydro (Rushmore Electric and East River)
- 3.4 cents per Kwh for coal fired generation (Rushmore Electric and East River)
- Wholesale average rate of 3.2 to 3.4
  cents per Kwh (Rushmore Electric and East River)

# Comparison of Wind to a Mix of Coal and Hydro

- Generation cost are similar
- Comparing apples to oranges
- Coal, Hydro, Nuclear, NG are FIRM sources
- Wind is INTERMITTENT



#### Wind Combine

- Cost \$150,000
- Only operates when the wind blows

### Diesel Combine

- Cost \$150,000
- Operates on demand



## What is Going on Nationally

- Push for Renewable/Green Energy
- SD Legislation Highmore Project
- Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS)
- Net Metering
- Transmission



## **QUESTIONS???**

Cost Examples....